

**Act No. 183 (S.28). Health; vital records; birth certificates**

**An act relating to gender-neutral nomenclature for the identification of parents on birth certificates**

This act requires that birth certificates issued by the Department of Health identify parents with gender-neutral nomenclature. The act also establishes a new process by which a parent who was unable to be listed on the child's birth certificate due to the lack of gender-neutral nomenclature may petition the Probate Division in order to establish his or her parentage. In addition, the act requires attending physicians, midwives, or parents to file a certificate of birth with a town clerk within five days of the birth. The act also requires the Secretary of Human Services to report to the General Assembly with a recommendation of whether the voluntary acknowledgement of parentage process should be amended to allow a nonbiological parent to use a voluntary acknowledgement form to acknowledge parentage. Similarly, the Department of Health would be required to report to the General Assembly on or before January 2015 with recommendations for the issuance of certified birth and death certificates.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014